



Public Service Announcement

October 1, 2018

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For Immediate Release

**Helpline Center & Black Hills Urgent Care name
October Volunteer of the Month**



Pictured left to right, October winners Bob Catherman, Heather Hedglin, Patty Fanter, Eileen Taylor, John Pondish, and Audrey Nordine of Helpline Center.

RAPID CITY - The Helpline Center and Black Hills Urgent Care are pleased to announce that the Special Olympics Rapid City Flame Bowling Leadership (Bob Catherman, Patty Fanter, Heather Hedglin, John Pondish, and Eileen Taylor) have been named the October 2018 Volunteer(s) of the Month.

The Volunteer of the Month program is sponsored by the Helpline Center and Black Hills Urgent Care, a division of Black Hills Surgical Hospital. Volunteer of the Month recognizes outstanding individuals who make the community stronger through volunteerism.

This leadership team has been the backbone to Special Olympics Rapid City Flame Bowling for over eight years. They provide a welcoming environment for all bowling athletes, their families, and volunteers, making bowling the most popular sport for our youth and young adults with intellectual disabilities! Coach Patty has led the weekly practice for over ten years and makes sure that athletes gain valuable bowling skills and experience. Her enthusiastic approach allows each athlete to perform at their best and to leave the lanes with a desire to come back and bowl again. Chaperones Bob, Heather, John, and Eileen, are the reason that the Special Olympics

Bowling team has an annual trip to the Special Olympics South Dakota Statewide Bowling Tournament. The athletes travel to Aberdeen and have a weekend filled with fun, friends and competition. The chaperones maintain order for a chaotic and demanding schedule during a hectic, extended weekend. They assist athletes with wellness, meals, swimming, dancing, karaoke, and, of course, getting to the bowling alley for competition!

Each of these volunteers have put in untold hours of service to athletes and their families. It is through their caring, their time and energy, and their skills in working with individuals with intellectual disabilities, that Rapid City Flame offers a first-class bowling program.

Helpline Center and Black Hills Urgent Care presented the Special Olympics Rapid City Flame Bowling Leadership each with a certificate and Helpline Center T-shirt, gifts from Black Hills Urgent Care and a letter of appreciation from Rapid City Mayor Steve Allender. The Helpline Center will also recognize The Special Olympics Rapid City Flame Leadership at the Spirit of Volunteerism Awards banquet on Tuesday, May 21, 2019, at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel and Convention Center. For information on volunteer opportunities, please call the Helpline Center at 211 or visit www.helplinecenter.org